GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:213
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2001
VIOLATION OF ARMY ACT IN AWARDING COURT MARTIALS
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Sena Kanon Ka Ulanghan Kiya Abhiyojan paksh ne: Bhatnagar` appearing in Dainik Jagaran dated January 23, 2001;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on the issues raised in the news item;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that no injustice is done to any service personnel and to streamline the Court Martial proceedings;

(d) the number of court martial proceedings pending and the time by when it is pending; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the finalization thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): Court Martial is a judicial process, which does not warrant any outside interference. While ordering Court Martials in relation to alleged acts of indiscipline on the part of service personnel, provisions of the Army Act and Rules made thereunder, are followed meticulously.

There are four cases of Court Martials relating to Operation Vijay, in two cases out of which, trial has already commenced, and in the other two cases, the process has begun though, the trial is yet to begin.